



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Plans for class sessions this fall still up in the air

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

During Monday's regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, via Zoom, School Supt. Pete Kudlak told the board he has no idea how the reentry to school in the fall is going to go.

"It changes from day to day and not just here. It's across the country," Supt. Kudlak said. "I don't know what Belleville will look like this fall."

Kudlak said it depends upon what zone the governor announces for an area. He said the Belleville area is now zone 4, but if it goes back to 1, 2, or 3, they can't have kids in the buildings.

He said 50-some people are working on three separate committees to determine different plans on what will happen once the zone is determined.

Kudlak said in phase 4, he doesn't know what will happen. In phase 5, students can be in person, fully.

Masks are required for grades 6-12, all the time. For pre-Kindergarten through grade 5, masks are required in common areas and on buses.

"We're enforcing the rule and trying to figure out how to do it," he said. "Some people are anti-mask, but we're just following the rules." He said if people want the mask rule changed, they need to go to Lansing.

He said at the regular meeting on Aug. 10 the board will vote on this.

Kudlak said there are 55 people in the three groups from all different parts of the school with different viewpoints.

He said their suggestions will be presented to a panel of parents and the parents' job is to poke holes in it and give feedback. He said they won't be able to think of

(continued on page 15)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Monday morning, they started demolishing the old Belleville Area District Library, which stood next to the newly constructed library. The old library was known as the Fred C. Fischer Library before the district library was established. Once the old library is removed, work can begin on a new 90-car parking lot to be shared between the library and the City of Belleville. Also, Fourth Street will be redesigned and renovated by the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, becoming a one-way street that ends in the alley and the new parking lot.

VBT Planners want more details on Scott Jones' project

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Planning Commission, at its regular meeting July 8 via Zoom, discussed proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance that would pave the way for Scott Jones project on the water next to Sandy's Marina.

The residential project has been under discussion for a year and Jones said they have been taking names and he has a list of 37 people who are interested.

Proposed amendments would allow single-family detached dwellings at a density of 6 to 7 units per acre as a permitted land use by right in the RM - Multiple Dwelling Residential District - and would contemplate dimensional requirements for the homes.

The current R1-C zoning allows for the construction of single-family homes at 5 dwelling units per acre. Jones would like a density of 6-7 per acre on the 13.6 acres at 41620 E. Huron River Drive and to rezone the parcel from R1-C to RM zoning.

After consideration, the township earlier amended the Master Plan to change the zoning on the subject site from R-1C to RM with limitations. This would allow the required density for the development and protect against any other potential uses allowed in the RM district which may not fit in this area, such as apartment complexes.

The next step will be to amend the zoning ordinance to allow density of 7,200 square feet on a 60-foot wide lot and side yard of 10 feet (6.05 units per acre) or 6,300 square feet on a 45-foot wide lot and side yard of five feet (6.91 units per acre).

Planning consultant Vidya Krishnan of McKenna presented the two options for the commissioners to discuss before a recommendation is made.

Commissioner Medina Atchinson said

the township has enough apartments.

She said looking at Jones' concepts, his project looks similar to Cherry Hill Village in Canton, with small lots and large buildings. At first, people thought that wouldn't work, but it was very popular.

Krishnan said the two projects were similar.

Atchinson asked for the differences and Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, said they could do a comparison of the projects.

Power said Jones' project is similar to the residences north of downtown Belleville.

"Would you like a comparison of Cherry Hill and Belleville?" Krishnan asked and Atchinson replied, "Absolutely."

Commission chairperson Carol Thompson agreed it would be helpful to have staff bring the comparisons back so commissioners can visualize what is being requested.

Commissioner Jeff Jahr asked for clarification on what Krishnan was asking. Was the commission being asked to decide

(continued on page 8)

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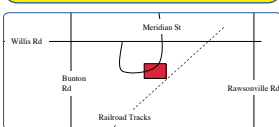
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Planners vote to ease permit rules to encourage outside dining

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

"I am doing back flips. You can't see me, but I am so happy that we are reaching out to our businesses," said Van Buren Township Planning Commissioner Medina Atchinson at the commission's regular meeting on June 24, held virtually via Zoom.

Atchinson's face was not on the screen with the other commission members because she was having technical difficulties and had to participate by cell phone.

This was after a request by Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power to pass a motion to recommend to the township board to allow administrative review of special land use permits needed because of COVID-19. This would be in place of having to wait for a planning commission meeting for permit approvals.

Atchinson reacted to the news that Power was already reaching out to help businesses because he wanted to get the ball rolling.

Power said it was a unique situation for a lot of businesses because of the coronavirus and they are trying to reopen.

They are allowed only 50% of usual customers inside, so they could move some retail and dining space outdoors. He said VBT doesn't have the landscape of downtown Belleville or Plymouth where there are small spaces, but if a business wanted to take outdoor space for use, the township could help them.

"I'm asking the planning commission to allow us to relax some of the regulations that go along with the permits and they would be allowed to do so with only administrative review through October and without a fee," Power said.

"This is to help the restaurants get up to speed," Power said, adding this is not the social districts being enacted by the state to designate outdoors to share areas.

"We're not there yet," Power said. "This is case by case for individual businesses. He said he is looking to act on this that evening and put it on the agenda of the next township board meeting on July 7. [On July 7, the township board unanimously approved the policy.]

"Our businesses in the community are hurting," said Public Service Director Matthew Best. He said they are allowed only 50% capacity and members of the Downtown Development Authority and the community want to move with speed to get seats outside for Applebee's, Dos Pesos, Twisted Rooster and a sidewalk sale at Belle Square. He said the Chamber of Commerce is excited.

(continued on page 16)



On July 7 at the Quirk Park pavilion in Van Buren Township the officers and directors of the Rotary Club of Belleville were installed by 2020-21 Rotary District 6400 Governor Dr. Noel Jackson, also known as "Captain Rotary." From left are Governor Jackson; president Debra Green; vice-president Jerry Richardson; treasurer Brian Pearcy; second vice-president Rachel Kozlowski; and directors Patti Monroe, Keith Bruder, and Dennis Davidson.

Letters

Leave LaSalle statue alone in Victory Park

To the editor:

Subject: Statue of LaSalle in Victory Park

Ah, 1607 – that was the year that was! Or was it? We all know of 1492 and Columbus "...sailed the ocean blue." How about Amerigo Vespucci who got the "travel bug" about 1497 and discovered Central America; 1498 discovered Venezuela a year BEFORE Columbus did on his future trips. Also, throw in Brazil and the Amazon River. This goes on for another 10 years of exploration and "Imperialism" with the possible infancy of "Old World Manifest Destiny."

My point ... 36 years BEFORE the birth of LaSalle the conquest of Native Americans – yes, they were named after Amerigo Vespucci as was in – 1538 - South America, Central America, and North America labeled by German mapmaker Mercator.

Onward to the Conquistadores! Corte's and Coronado, who trampled Aztec,

Navajo, Apache, and Cheyenne Nations while claiming lands. Including the Grand Canyon (and for geographic purposes) California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Texas, and New Mexico all claimed by Spain.

France had her explorers and claw-hooks in the New World with Louisiana and controlled only a small fraction of this area – a territory that bordered on the East by the Mississippi River; on the West by the Rocky Mountains; on the North by Canada; and on the South by the Gulf of Mexico; controlled and inhabited by Plains Indians who spoke six different language stocks (making tribes easier to categorize). These are the Arapaho, Atsina, Blackfoot, Plains Cree, Plains Ojibwa, Cheyenne, Crow, Mandan Assiniboin, Omaha, Hidatsa, Osage, Kansa, Oto, Iowa, Ponca, Missouri, Wind River Shoshone Comanche, Pawnee, Arikara, Wichita, and the Kiowa.

What the United States BOUGHT was the "preemptive" right to obtain Native American lands by treaty or by CONQUEST, to the exclusion of other colonial powers. But why go here? All these tribes have been scientifically determined to be in existence for over 37,600 YEARS before LaSalle was born! Keep in mind, also, these tribes were constantly warring,

taking prisoners and slaves.

What about the East coast and its colonization? Oh, there was a Norseman (Eric the Red) who explored but no permanent settlements. Then the Spanish on the Florida Peninsula, in conflict with 36 different Indian tribes – many taken as slaves back to Spain as a curiosity to the nobility of the Old World. The English settlement at Jamestown in 1607 (35 years BEFORE LaSalle's birth) on Powhatan Indian hunting grounds. By 1610, 80-90% of Jamestown settlers died and eventually proved a failure for numerous reasons non-pertinent at this time except possibly this bit of trivia. The year was 1613 (we are getting closer to LaSalle's birth by 30 years). Pocahontas was kidnapped by the English, later married John Rolfe in England. Jamestown was resettled and eventually fought a 10-year war with the Powhatans until 1623.

Meanwhile, it is 1607 and the Puritans were in Holland having numerous difficulties and in 1617 decided to leave Holland in 1620 and landed at Plymouth Colony to establish a second English settlement. We all know the story of the Indians helping the Puritans (the term

(continued on page 17)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

VBT board agrees to give first responders \$1,000 bonus each

In a brief special meeting on Tuesday, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees agreed to give \$83,000 worth of bonuses to all of the police, fire, and dispatch employees – that's \$1,000 each.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said they have been watching for grants and they found the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that is a first responder hazard pay premium program.

The application period is July 7 to Sept. 30, but it's a first-come, first-served program and VBT had to act quickly to come up with its request. McNamara said he couldn't spend \$83,000 without a vote of the board and the board voted unanimously in a Zoom meeting to grant the hazard pay.

"I've heard from all of you that you want to do something for first responders," McNamara said to the board. He said it will cost the township \$6,400 in payroll taxes. He said they will cut each first responder a check for \$1,000 and take out their taxes. The township has to pay its share, too, with the taxes, he said.

Clerk Leon Wright said the union was going to ask for something for first responders. McNamara said he is looking for other grants and it looks like they will be able to get a \$1.61 million grant because the federal government is letting them write off everything for police and fire regarding COVID-19 costs.

First responders will be appreciative.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Thank you to the mysterious lady who drops off the fresh fruits and sweets in our office and then quickly leaves, without revealing her name. She puts my name on the bag, so there is no question of who is to receive it. When she started doing this delightful drop, she said it was to thank us for all we do for the community. How nice. We appreciate you, too.

Also, thank you to the person who called to alert us when the protestor was in front of the LaSalle statue at Five Points. I went right over and was able to take her picture, which was on the front page of last week's paper. We need all the eyes and ears we can get in the community.

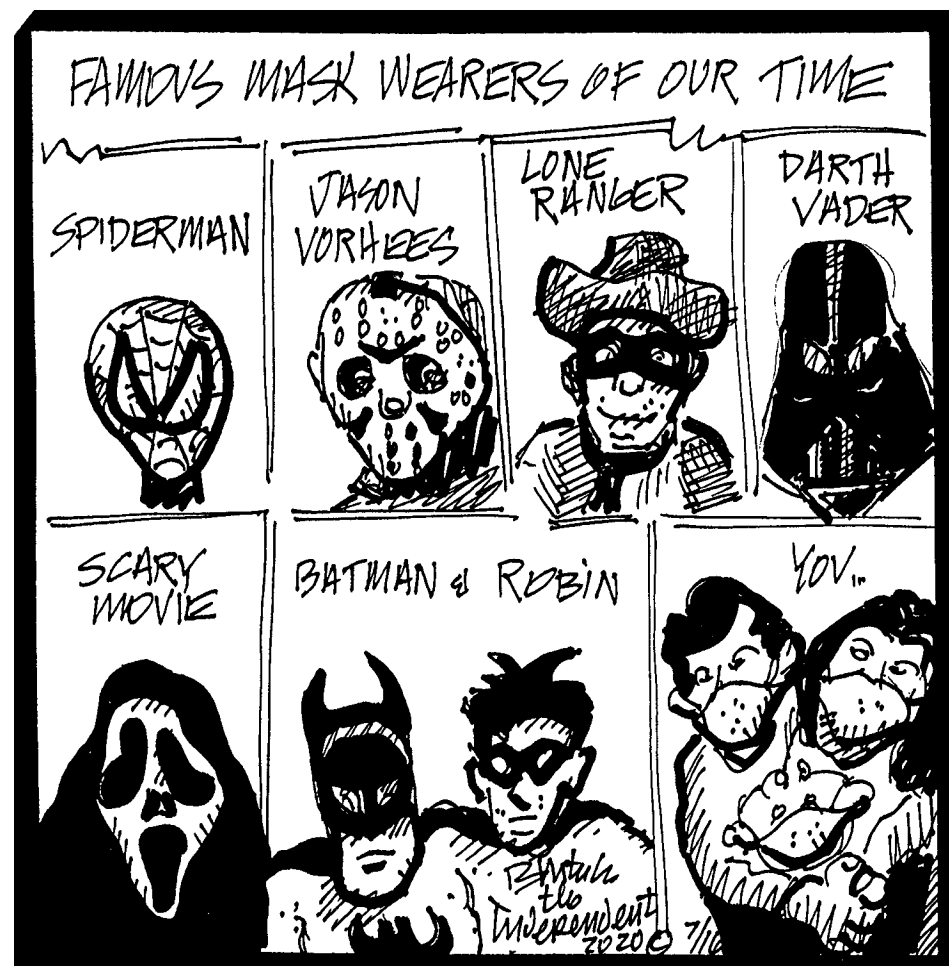
Often people take pictures of incidents in the tri-community and send them to us. Many times they are just what we needed and we can publish them.

On Monday morning, we got another call alerting us to the demolition beginning on the old Fred C. Fischer Library, next to the new library. Thanks for the tip.

John Vera of Bak Road at Hull Road in Van Buren Township said he lives across the street from a fire hydrant that is covered by a tree that fell down three and a half months ago. He said he and the other three families that depend on that fire hydrant said you can't see where the hydrant is and with the recent death of the senior couple in a fire in VBT they believe the situation to be a major safety issue.

He said he has lived in the township for 50 years. He said he went to the township twice, on June 24 and July 8. On July 8 they said they would send somebody, but

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



he's been watching and nobody has come to even look at it.

Vera said another neighbor drove to the fire hall on Hull Road to tell them of the situation and to ask them to at least check it out. He said in the four families there are three seniors and one family with a baby.

He said the township people told him they are really busy now. But, he said, they were able to be present for a Black Lives Matter protest, but not for the taxpayers who have a safety concern.

Michelle Bellingham wrote us an email to say she didn't talk with Barry Robinson as noted in this column last week. "I'm not aware of who he had the conversation with but it wasn't me. I just wanted to let you know that was not accurate. I'm not sure how other people feel but I am uncomfortable seeing my name in the paper especially when the information is not correct."

It was my understanding that Robinson said he talked to her, among others. Apparently, that was incorrect. I apologize. Please see Robinson's letter in next week's paper to read what he reports about the incident.

On July 8, shortly after 9 a.m., a boat that was being launched from the DNR boat launch next to BYC was reported fully engulfed in flames on Belleville Lake. The occupants jumped off and the boat

was floating down the middle of the lake, obviously in the Huron River current. VBT Fire Marshal Dave McNally said a jet ski put out the fire, by continually splashing it with water, which bystanders really enjoyed seeing. VBT fire fighters were on the north shore ready to put out the fire since the boat was heading to the end of a drive where there was a fire hydrant. It also had been heading toward a wooden dock earlier, but fire fighters were ready, so the dock wouldn't catch on fire.

Once the fire was out, the boat abruptly sank and everything was over. Fire fighters marked the spot for divers and McNally said the divers were out Monday to take a look.

Also last week, a boat turned over on its side in Belleville Lake at Hayward's and they couldn't get it up, so they left it in the water. It wasn't leaking. But the next day it started leaking. The insurance company had already been out, but now the EPA was involved. McNally said they got ahold of a seawall company working on the lake and it raised the boat.

They were able to contain the fuel and sucked up 500 gallons of contaminated water. Now they are working out who is going to pay the costs, McNally said.



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Letters

'Cocktails to go' is a separate bill in package

To the editor:

Thank you for the article concerning the BORA DORA district (as it's now called).

I noticed that you mentioned the "cocktails to go" as the drinks allowed in the DORA.

Cocktails to go is actually a separate bill within the package of laws. Cocktails to go are pre-made cocktails that are in a qualified container up to 1 gallon in size.

They must be sealed with a lid that contains no straw hole or perforations.

They must be labeled with a sticker that states "CONTAINS ALCOHOL" and if it is being delivered, must also say "MUST BE DELIVERED TO PERSON OVER THE AGE OF 21."

These drinks may not be pre-poured into a container before the actual sale and must be kept sealed until they are taken to your house or where you can legally drink them. They CANNOT be consumed in the DORA or any other public area that bans the consumption of alcohol.

The DORA

The DORA must use cups up to 16 oz. and they must have the logo of the DORA (supplied by the city) and the logo or other identifying mark from the seller of the cup. Example, if Egan's, the Bayou or Johnny's all receive a permit and can sell these DORA cups, each establishment would have to have a cup with the city's DORA logo and their logo on it.

Any other item, a bottle of beer or a solo cup, for example, would be considered an open container and the person would receive a citation for that. In the DORA the drink MUST be in a designated cup. You cannot bring your own alcohol into the DORA. It is still illegal to be in or on a motor vehicle with alcohol. The cup must be empty before leaving the district.

I just wanted to clarify so that people don't get in trouble and that the DORA runs smoothly without any complaints. I believe it is a good decision for the city and hopefully will bring more foot traffic for local business.

If you have any questions concerning rules and laws of these new bills, I can try to answer them the best I can. Please feel free to reach out to me.

John Winter
Egan's Pub, Belleville

Editor's Note: Thank you for explaining this. I apologize for the confusion. For our readers: DORA is short for Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area recently signed into law by Gov. Whitmer.

Anniversary

July 19 – William and Shae Millard, 21 years

Emergency Food Closet open during COVID-19

To the editor:

Since March 17, the Emergency Food Closet housed at the First United Methodist Church located at 417 Charles St. has been operating and continues to operate as a drive-through pantry.

It is open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to residents of Sumpter and Van Buren townships and the City of Belleville. Since that date, 55 new clients have received food. 73% have been age 60 and older. Most of these are single and living on small Social Security incomes.

Members of our community, both individuals and businesses, have been very generous donating needed food items and money to keep the pantry well-stocked. This month the Meijer Simply Give program donated another \$2,500 to our pantry. The outgoing of support from so many has been overwhelming, heartwarming, and a blessing!

If anyone would like to donate food items, we are always in need of canned soup, Hunt's Spaghetti Sauce, spaghetti noodles, canned tuna or chicken, cereal, canned fruit, Chef Boyardee products, mac and cheese, peanut butter, and jelly.

Personal care products are also needed. The pantry only supplies toilet paper. Clients also need laundry soap, dish soap, Kleenex, paper towels, shampoo, conditioner, tooth paste, and tooth brushes.

Items may be dropped off at the church between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Minette Brownlee and Marilyn Wood
Emergency Food Closet Coordinators
Belleville

Dead trees mar pleasant Hillside Cemetery

To the editor:

Re: Dead trees

Hillside Cemetery has half a dozen trees that are either completely or half dead. This is hardly an appropriate way to honor our loved ones enjoying their perpetual rest at this otherwise pleasant facility.

Don Sherman
Van Buren Township

"Out of clutter, find simplicity."
– Albert Einstein

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De - FEND the Police - YES

De - FUND the Police - NO (Anarchy!)

More Letters

Absentee ballots and Post Office mail delivery

To the editor:

After reading the item in "EXTRA THINGS I KNOW" about Elaine Stabnau's experience with mail delivery, I feel compelled to bring up my recent experiences with mail delivery.

Over the past three months I have received several First Class and Priority Mail mailings that arrived seven to 10 days after the postmark and one Priority Mail from South Dakota took 20 days.

A letter from City Hall took seven days to be delivered. The days in transit were based on the Post Office Cancellation mark and not a Postal Meter Machine stamping.

These delays are not the fault of the Belleville Post Office. The services I have received from the Belleville Post Office, I rate as A-Plus. The delays occurred within the Postal System; in Belleville's case, the Allen Park Sorting Facility. The facility had several COVID-19 cases. Ninety of the 120 employees at the Allen Park Facility have called in sick (this was told to me by a Belleville Postal Clerk). The continuing shortage of Sorting Facility workers has put a strain on delivery service.

I understand that any item mailed in a Belleville mailbox is sent onto the sorting facility and then set back to the Belleville Post Office. Generally, sorting is not done at the Belleville Post Office.

The Primary Election is Aug. 4th. I recommend, for obvious reasons, if you are voting Absentee you drop your ballot off at the appropriate city hall or township office.

Sincerely,
Richard S. Smith
Belleville

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Obituaries



Franklin Stout

FRANKLIN STOUT

(March 20, 1946 – July 10, 2020)

Franklin Stout, age 74, of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, July 10, 2020. Frank was born March 20, 1946 in Pikeville, Kentucky and graduated from Belleville High School in 1964. He proudly served as a U.S. Marine during the Vietnam War, receiving the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat. In 1967, Frank married his lovely wife, Linda. After more than 32 years of loyal employment, he retired from the Ford Motor Company Ypsilanti Plant where he was a member of the local UAW. He is also a former member of the Belleville Moose. Frank enjoyed playing guitar, darkroom photography, studying Native American history, and reading about the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Frank especially loved spending time with his family. He was the beloved husband of Linda (passed on 8/08/11); loving father of Kim (Jonathan) Schmoll and Robin (Charles) Skora; doting grandfather of Gabriel, Miranda, Sofia and Amelia; and dear brother of Amos Johnson, Jr. and Deborah (Danny) Williams; as well as numerous extended family, including cousins, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

Visitation this Thursday, July 16, 4-7 p.m. and Friday, July 17, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., and funeral Friday 12 p.m. at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville. Due to pandemic restrictions, visitation is limited to ten guests in the building at one time, and the funeral is limited to family. Visitors must wear a mask inside the facility.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to his favorite charities: Purple Heart or The Salvation Army.

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BERNARD 'CHUM' WALL

(November 20, 1942 – May 29, 2020)

Bernard passed away peacefully at his home on May 29, 2020. He is survived by his wife Janet (Warner) Wall; three children Keith (Joann) Wall, Terry Jokimaki and Sheila Wall; also three step-children, Derrick (Michelle) Wells, Kevin Wells, and Tracie Wells; 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one sister Linda Traskos; and sister-in-law Irene Wall.

He was preceded in death by his parents Bernard and Virginia Wall, his brother Richard Wall, and his son Kevin Wall.

KIRK WILLIAM KEIRL

(March 12, 1958 – July 10, 2020)

Age 62, of Van Buren Township. Survived by chihuahua Buddy; sisters Debbie Reynolds, Gilda Rose, Leeann Keirl; nine nieces and nephews. Cremation rites accorded through David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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Carl Alvin Tidrick

CARL ALVIN TIDRICK

(August 17, 1949 - July 10, 2020)

Carl Alvin Tidrick, age 70, of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, July 10, 2020 at his home. He was born August 17, 1949 in Canton, Ohio, son of Robert Herman & Ruth Elizabeth (Perret) Tidrick. Carl enjoyed auto-mechanics in his younger years and worked at General Motors as a tool maker for over 20 years. He drove a truck for over ten years. He enjoyed gardening, trips to Greenfield Village, and most of all, he enjoyed teaching High School at Metro Baptist School where he was an active member as well for over 30 years.

Mr. Tidrick is survived by his loving wife of almost 38 years, Margaret "Peggy" (Smith) Tidrick, their son Jonathan Tidrick of Belleville, MI, grand-dog Princess, sister Barbara "Jody" (Richard) Czarnota of Howell, MI, brother Paul (Linda) Tidrick of Rockwood, MI, two nieces, ten nephews, and numerous colleagues and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, also a brother Robert Eric Tidrick.

Visitation will be 11 a.m. until Noon Thursday, July 16, 2020 at Metro Baptist Church, 47100 North Interstate 94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI. His funeral service will begin at Noon. Rev. Dr. John Vapreznan will officiate. Interment will be at 2:30 p.m. in Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia, MI. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI (734) 697-4500.

ALLEN PAUL MOOMAW

(October 12, 1959 - July 4, 2020)

Allen Paul Moomaw, age 60, of Romulus, MI, passed away Saturday, July 4, 2020.

Allen was born in Romulus, MI on October 12, 1959, the son of George A. and Sharon Lee (Chargo) Moomaw.

Allen was a welder most of his life and enjoyed being outdoors. He was a father, grandfather and brother. He was preceded in death by his parents.

"Sometimes I think about how I hope our lives would have been and our memories will always be a part of me and who I am. I hope you are better now and know, you'll always be my Dad." Love, Elaine

Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, MI.

COVID-19 death count in 48111 zip code remains the same at 30

The number of deaths from COVID-19 remains at 30 in the tri-community, which includes Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter in the 48111 zip code. The tri-community hasn't had a COVID-19 death since June 22.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 went up to 449 on Tuesday, up from 411 last Tuesday, July 7.

On Tuesday, July 14, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 241 positive cases, 15 deaths; City of Belleville, 159 positive cases, 14 deaths, and Sumpter Township 49 positive cases, 1 death.

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VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

on the two options and Krishnan said yes.

"Is the ground suitable to house all of these lots at this time?" asked commission vice chairman Donald Boynton of the lakeside property.

"That's a good question," Power replied, noting they are hoping for the best, of course. He said he would like to see the design details which will be front and center in the design process and especially in the rezoning. He doesn't know about the soil integrity at this point.

"We want more information, as far as density, so we can visualize," Thompson said, adding the comparisons were homework assignments for staff.

Atchinson asked if, after rezoning, the applicant sells the property for whatever reason, she doesn't want more apartments built there.

Krishnan said RM at 6-7 per acre would be all that could be built there.

Power said with the present zoning, it has to be detached single-family dwellings.

Krishnan said Jones would be back for conditional rezoning.

Jahr said he would like to know if the commission made changes, where else in the township could that zoning be used?

Krishnan and Power said that will be studied and presented to the commission, as well.

Jones said, via Zoom, his intention is to build two-story homes and they have found basements are not feasible because of the water table. He said most are interested in a master bedroom downstairs and more bedrooms upstairs.

He said this was similar to what has

been built in Belleville [on North Liberty Street]. But, he said, his lots are larger and the Belleville side lots are 7 feet and he is asking for 10 feet. He said he originally applied on April 30, 2019 and then he reapplied.

In other business at the one-hour-37-minute meeting, the commission:

- Heard a 50-minute presentation by Adam Cook, master plan consultant from McKenna, on the proposed VBT 2020 Master Plan, which is more than 100 pages long. The commission voted to recommend to the township board that it release the full draft plan for 63-day review. Cook said 1989 was when the last township-wide master plan was adopted and it has been amended several times since then and four sub-plans were also adopted for Ecorse/Haggerty, Greenways, South Side Master Plan, and Belleville Road District Plan. These sub plans will remain separate and if there are any contradictions, the 2020 Master Plan would take precedence; and

- Approved minor site plan revisions for homes being built by Upland Homes, mostly in Country Walk 4. The homes will be subject to careful review by staff for building permits to make sure the homes are substantially different from those nearby.

Commissioner Joan Franzoi was present at the beginning of the meeting to make sure they had a quorum and then asked to be excused when the quorum was achieved. She said she is recovering from knee surgery and it is uncomfortable to sit as required for participation in the Zoom meeting.

"I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize."
— Steven Wright



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It is with sadness that our last day of serving Lunch Box favorites to you will be August 1 when our doors close as the building gets prepped for demolition to make way for even greater things for this side of town. There's new and exciting opportunities coming your way in our beautiful city. We've been blessed.

The past ten years have put me in a place in life I've never dreamed of, with all the friends I've made at these former businesses, the customers that followed me when I was 18 while working as a chef at Paula's Home Cookin', working my first family business when I was 20 at Tornado's Pizza, Up n' Smoke in two locations, Hen House, and the former owner of Miami Tan. I owe my success to this city and its people as you shadowed me everywhere I went. So, from the top of my lungs and all the love inside, I will miss you.

Thank you people of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Townships, and everyone in between, from the passer-by that stumbled upon us while turning around in our parking lot, to public safety for keeping our communities safe. If you simply walked through my doors at any of my businesses, you became family. Thank you for believing in me and please continue to support other small businesses like mine.

As we move forward, I can't wait to share with you what's next. Stay tuned. In the meantime, I'm planning to be at Lunch Box as much as I can during these final days so please stop in and visit before we close. Don't forget to wear a mask as we continue to practice self-distancing. We'll share a laugh, perhaps an elbow bump, and you'll get a personal thank you from the bottom of my heart.

God Bless you and keep you safe!

-Rodney

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 — Mark Twain

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Letters

Vote for Lisa Robinson Martin for judge

To the editor:

I am writing in support of Lisa Robinson Martin for 34th District Judge. Lisa is a gifted thinker, educated in the nation's finest institutions of higher learning (Harvard and the University of Michigan Law School). She is experienced, especially in this court jurisdiction, having served as a magistrate at the 34th District Court. Finally, she is a no-nonsense, fair-minded decision-maker. All of these characteristics make Lisa an exceptional candidate.

I have known Lisa's family for decades and see in her the same community engagement I've known from her aunts and uncles. She works hard in countless community organizations and projects. She and her husband know and serve our greater community well. Lisa will bring fresh perspective to our courts and provide the life experience that will help balance the justice system in our increasingly diverse community.

Sharon C. Peters, Van Buren Township

Is mayor making a deal to remove firefighters?

To the editor:

At the July 6 Zoom meeting, and as printed in July 9, 2020 edition of the Belleville-Area Independent, Mayor Conley said, "Someone inferred the Mayor tried to dissolve the fire department and it cost the fire department a lot of money to hire an attorney and that wasn't true."

The mayor misrepresents the cost of the hiring an attorney coming from the fire department when it was the Belleville Volunteer Firefighters Association who paid for the attorney to file a restraining order in Wayne County Circuit Court. March 1, 2018 a status conference in the lawsuit was set before Judge Allan. This results in the City and Township removing this issue from their agenda. Township Supervisor McNamara indicated they would look at the issue again if the city makes a "concurrent" offer.

Is the mayor working on a "concurrent" offer? If so, will there be open public discussion or will the citizens of Belleville find out when another 30-day notice is issued that the volunteer fireman positions could be removed (eliminated)?

Phyllis Smith, Belleville

Vote for Sheena Barnes for Sumpter Trustee

To the editor:

I am writing in support of Sheena Barnes for Sumpter Township Trustee. She is a lifelong Sumpter resident, local business owner, and highly-engaged in serving her community.

Sheena Barnes has a heart for Sumpter. She understands the needs of underrepresented residents and she genuinely cares about how our tax dollars are spent. Ms. Barnes will add a fresh perspective not offered by the current band of trustees. Let us give balance to Sumpter's board by electing candidates that reflect the diversity of thought and experience that is Sumpter.

I offer my professional endorsement of Sheena Barnes for Sumpter Township Trustee.

Please join me in voting for Ms. Barnes on Aug., 4, 2020.

Kenneth Bednark, Treasurer
 Sumpter Township

Vote for Rochowiak, Parrott on Aug. 4

To the editor:

Four years ago, my wife and I moved from Belleville to Arizona for personal reasons, but we still read the *Belleville Independent* newspaper every week, regularly talk to friends living there, and consider Belleville home.

Van Buren Township, Belleville and Sumpter Township are extremely fortunate to have professionally qualified and dedicated candidates running for office. A few weeks ago, when Walt Rochowiak announced his candidacy for Van Buren Trustee, I thought to myself, "It's about time." Walt has the experience and leadership qualities for the position. Walt is a consensus builder who can get people with different agendas to work together.

(continued on page 19)

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- Van Buren Township Treasurer Sharry Budd
- Former Van Buren Township Supervisors Helen Foster, Cindy King & Linda Combs

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The Belleville Blues Drive-in is a one-day marathon of blues bands coming to the grounds at Belleville High School on Saturday, July 25, from 12:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The cost is \$20 per car and social distancing and other guidelines will be in place. Enjoy blues music by Little Ed & the Blues Imperials, Larry McCray, Sweet Willie T, Nicki D & the Sisters of Thunder, and Motor City Josh. There will also be food vendors on site and no alcohol allowed on the grounds. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts put the event together with sponsors BYC, Moving the Mitten, Atchinson Ford, Van Buren Eagles, and Unlimited DJ. Visit www.musiclakeside.com and www.bacaart.com. The event will fill some of void in the absence of Music Lakeside Concert Series that has been taking place every summer at Horizon Park. Well done, BACA!

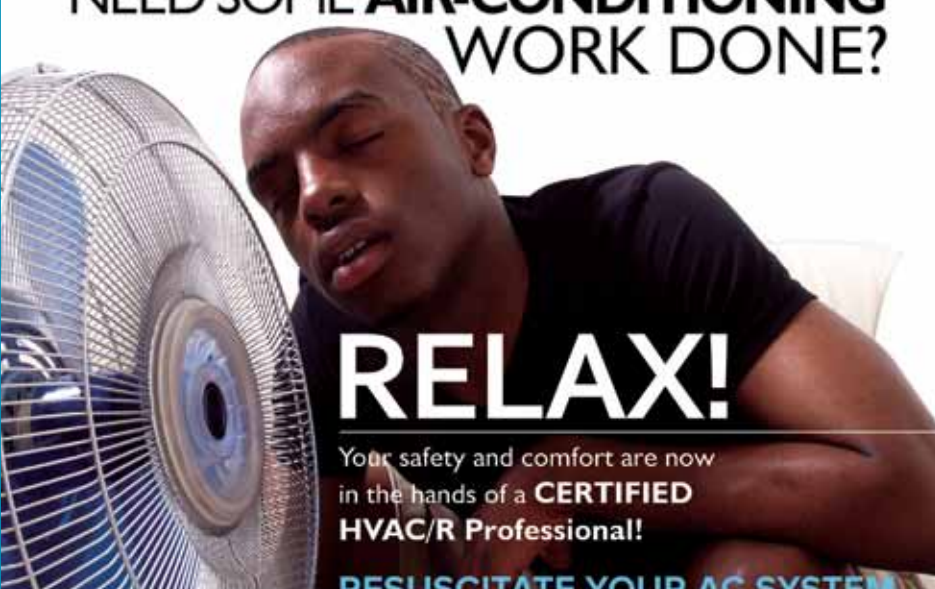
On the same day, July 25, the Kentuckians of Michigan are holding an outdoor concert featuring a Tribute to the Stars at their location at 28391 Bredow Rd. in Romulus. Cost is \$7 per person and will feature tribute artists Corrie Lynn, Fred Wolfe (Elvis), Dan Spencer (Toby Keith), and more. Lawn chairs and coolers are

permitted and social distancing in place. No food will be available and a 50/50 drawing will be held. For info call (734) 782-0132. The place is located between Sibley and King Roads, north of Middlebelt. Tickets are also available in advance.

With just a handful of parks and public spaces available to get a daily dose of nature, the area Metroparks are open with trails for bikes, joggers, roller blades, basketball and tennis courts, etc. Social-distancing guidelines are enforced. With summer native Michigan wildflowers already popping, like Queen Anne's Lace, Flax and Fleabane, my favorites, be on the lookout for the little Green Herons, and Kingfishers near the trail bridges. Love how they dive into the Huron and then fly back to their perches with their catch. Thinking about trying disc golf, too. Should be fun. Hoping to take an afternoon bike trip myself to Lower Huron this weekend. Perhaps I'll run into you, not physically that is, but socially distant. To learn more about the Metroparks and their offerings, visit www.metroparks.com. Willow Metropark will be showing movies under the stars drive-in style with "Secret Lives of Pets 2" on July 25. Might check that out.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.

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**The Hidden Risks of Hearing Loss (2019) retrieved from <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/the-hidden-risks-of-hearing-loss>



NELSON PO

For SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

SUPERVISOR

VOTE  **AUG. 4TH!**

I ENDORSE:



JIM CLARK

For TREASURER, SUMPTER TWP.



SHERRY OLDS

For CLERK, SUMPTER TWP.



SHEENA BARNES

For TRUSTEE, SUMPTER TWP.



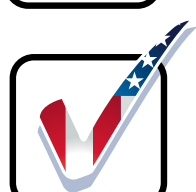
PEGGY MORGAN

For TRUSTEE, SUMPTER TWP.



ERIC PARTRIDGE

For TRUSTEE, SUMPTER TWP.



KEN MYERS

For TRUSTEE, SUMPTER TWP.



More Letters

Are you the generation that gives up freedom?

To the editor:

Are you the generation that finally gives up our freedom?

None of us have ever seen in our lifetime the present level of polarization in our political ideals, the level of contempt toward others with different views, the ease with which special interest groups can manipulate the public through politicians and the media, and the trending “embarrassment to be an American.”

It seems to have happened overnight with the latest generation, and is easy to blame on their soft, noncommittal approach to life, a predigested selective education, with socialism being their answer to all the major issues we face – “social” being the root word that promises to resolve all issues for all citizens through an all-knowing, all powerful government. However, this shift didn’t happen overnight. There has been a steady pressure from both sides of government to push toward globalization, open borders, and a stronger and more expensive government for several generations, with its gradual shift toward socialism.

The speed bump that finally upset the smooth transition was Donald Trump. He can’t be bought, doesn’t trust many career politicians on either side for good reason, hates lobbyists and would like to see term limits on all of Congress, sees through the media, and strives to keep his campaign promises -- in spite of the overwhelming backlash stemming from the very fact that he beat Hillary and slowed the transition to socialism many were becoming blind to.

He is unpolished, not in bed with the “important” political players, says what he feels like saying without worrying about being politically correct, not trying to be the nicest guy on the block – JUST WHAT

IT TOOK to beat Hillary.

Most Democrats were caught off guard when he won his first term, and never came to grips with losing the election – becoming “Never-Trumpers” and spreading their venom constantly through facebook and twitter for the next four years. The younger generation has been buried in anti-Trump press as well as a socialist-biased education, so that their political choices are reactionary, or emotional.

We are currently seeing that effect with the unfortunate fallout from recent black deaths at the hands of a handful of criminal police officers. Many mob actions have been led by BLM and antifa, and followed by many good-intentioned white supporters, resulting in many more black deaths (and white deaths), police killed, police departments defunded – all emotional reactions triggered by a few unfortunate deaths, but fostered by Marxist antifa and BLM, and funded by Soros.

This became just another means to break the conservative attempt to preserve and interpret the Constitution as written and intended, to keep God in our lives, to remember our history, good and bad, and to honor our flag and those that died for it. Down came statues, flags, as well as law and order -- just another step.

When you vote this November, please consider where this country is headed (think Venezuela), and know that America doesn’t have to be broken to its knees to correct its problems. God help your children if you do feel that way. Make your choice a well-thought-out one, that actually tries to conserve the strength and good traits of our country, especially the Constitution and what it stands for, and not a chance to kill it and start over.

It has lasted this long against all odds for a reason. Vote with a destination in mind, not just emotions. If you want to get somewhere on a bus, do you find it more important to look for the bus that is going where you want to end up, or do you wander through the station looking for the most polished, politically correct, slickest-

talking driver you can find, no matter where they are going?

Mike Aimone
Sumpter Township

“If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.”
– Will Rogers

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- WASHTENAW COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESIDENT FACILITATOR AND A STATE CERTIFIED HOSPICE CHAPLAIN.

Vincent Warren
FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TREASURER

AUG 04
TUE / 2020

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- Two years later, he won his first case in the Michigan Court of Appeals. When that case was reviewed by the Michigan Supreme Court, John briefed, argued and won again at age 29.
- John repeated this pattern before the Michigan Supreme Court on two other occasions. John has repeatedly Represented governmental bodies in multi-million dollar cases and won.
- John worked as City Prosecutor for nearly half of his career. He has represented communities and represented criminal defendants and individuals suing communities. He understands both sides. He has won for both sides.
- John has successfully litigated cases at every level of the Michigan Court System. He has handled every type of case that is heard in the 34th District Court.
- John has negotiated multi-million dollar public and private improvements to the area: Including the new state-of-the-art Belleville Area District Library and Sumpter Media Center.

I will work to improve the Court system and improve respect for the Judicial System. If this is what you would like to see vote on August 4th and vote for, John Day, for 34th District Court Judge.

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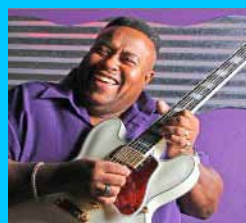
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Correction: Trustee Matt Oddy not related to Clerk Esther Hurst

In a letter to the editor published on page 15 in the July 9 issue of the *Belleville-Area Independent*, the writer stated that Sumpter Township Trustee Matt Oddy is a cousin of Sumpter Clerk Esther Hurst. This has been found to be incorrect.

It is Matt Oddy's brother Mark who is related to Hurst by marriage. Mark's wife is cousin to Hurst. We apologize for the mix-up in this letter in our paper.

Also, there is some confusion about what tax-reverted property Oddy purchased by a bid through the township with his First Step Properties LLC. We remember we had to file a Freedom of Information Act with the township to get the names of the winners in the 2017 bids on the Sumpter properties. Oddy's LLC bid on three and was the winning bid on the 8.33-acre parcel, which was on Sumpter Road, according to the township, with the property number of 81-129-99-0003-000. His winning bid was \$2,001. The other two properties named in the letter were purchased on the open market in 2014 and 2017, Oddy said in an email to the *Independent*.

He also said his LCC was formed in 2012 for his "small business," well before his bids on township property in 2017.

We regret the errors in the opposing candidate's letter and apologize for the embarrassment to Trustee Oddy.

Rosemary Otzman, editor

More Letters

Vote for John Day for district court judge

To the editor:

I had the honor of serving as both a member of the Belleville City Council and as Mayor of the City of Belleville. During my time of service, I worked with John Day on several important city projects. Beginning in 1982, John as an assistant city attorney, participated in the drafting of the current Belleville City Charter. Later John represented the city's interests in the Michigan Supreme Court in a successful case to reverse a Court of Appeals decision that would have cost the city substantial revenues.

As we know, Belleville is a small city with a limited tax base. Belleville faces a never-ending challenge of funding and maintaining city services in an environment of ever-increasing costs to provide those services. When I was on city council, we decided instead just raising taxes, we should try to increase the city's tax base. John helped us to do this by successfully negotiating and drafting three major development agreements: Harbor Point, Victoria Commons, and the Davenport Industrial Park. Together these three projects increased the city's population by nearly 25% and its tax base even more. As a result, we have more revenue for the city and did not need to raise taxes.

In 2010, Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter were struggling to fund library services to the area. For more than a decade they had unsuccessfully tried to negotiate a district library agreement. John was tasked to assist six elected officials from three communities to give it one more attempt. This effort resulted in the current Belleville Area District Library. John assisted in the negotiations and drafted the agreement. He went on to represent the new District Library Board. John was deeply involved in bringing to our communities a new state-of-the-art Belleville Area District Library and the new Sumpter Media Center.

John has worked as an attorney in the 34th District Court area for four decades, both as a city prosecutor and defense attorney. No other candidate in the race for district judge has served these communities and their citizens longer than John Day. No other candidate has done as much or has the broad depth of experience possessed by John. He would be a valuable addition to our court. I am voting for him and ask that you do the same.

Sincerely,
Richard S. Smith, Belleville

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2-FAMILY garage sale. Thurs., Fri., & Sat., July 16, 17, & 18, 9am-4pm. 49155 Bemis Rd. 07/16

6957 COUNTRY LANE in Capital Hills off Rawsonville. July 24, 25, & 26, 10am-6pm. Household items, clothing & lots of misc. 07/23

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VBPS

(continued from page 1)

everything and on day three of the school year probably five new issues will come up.

“We can’t think of everything,” Kudlak said. He said after they give the plan to the parents it will be fine-tuned and then given to the board to vote on.

Questions came from parents, with one asking if students in families can have the same schedules. Kudlak said they will make sure that happens. He said one of the proposals is to break the alphabet into two parts and students in the first half go to school in person on Monday and Tuesday and the second half goes to school in person on Thursday and Friday, with virtual education the other days.

“There’s a lot on social media, with fears and concerns,” said board secretary Darlene Gerick. “I have a lot of faith in the committees and the virtual education won’t be the same virtual we got thrown into. It would be strong virtual.”

Trustee Calvin Hawkins said, “Buses, buses, buses. I think about the bus. It’s hard to distance on the bus.”

Kudlak said the district has 65-passenger buses and with social distancing they would need three times as many buses. He said they will use masks and hand-sanitizers and, “I think some will opt out of transportation.”

Board president Amy Pearce said she is serving on the “hybrid” committee and, “It’s

impossible to social distance on the bus. They will wear masks, but you can’t guarantee social distancing on the bus.”

She said in Van Buren, the fifth and sixth grade classes are in the same building and have different rules about masks. She said Supt. Kudlak is going to talk to the state about this: Either not requiring the sixth graders to wear masks, since they are in self-contained classrooms, or to have the fifth graders be required to wear masks all the time along with the sixth graders.

When asked about school times, Kudlak said they are working on plans to change the times and, “All times will change a little bit.”

“This is uncharted territory ... and each day is a new experience,” said board vice president Susan Featheringill. “The plan is educating the kids and keeping everybody safe.”

Kudlak said they will come up with the best way to educate the kids and, “If we tweak it, we tweak it.”

Featheringill recalled that last spring the district was out the Friday school was canceled by the state and students and teachers couldn’t take things home. Now, she said, they are looking at little square boxes on the screen for Zoom meetings and, “This is normal. This is how you talk to people now...” She said they have to move forward and educate wisely, with Kudlak adding, “... and safely.”

“I think we should poll the kids and ask them do you know you’ll have to wear a mask all day? Do you want to go to school?

And, I bet they say yes,” said Trustee Simone Pinter.

President Pearce said working on the hybrid committee is a lot of work and there are a lot of great minds seeking answers.

“We’re going to keep chugging,” she said. “And, questions keep popping up.”

In other business in the 61-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved Edgemont and Rawsonville roof equipment replacements with sinking funds totaling \$429,388; with \$338,888 to Temperature Services, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder; \$25,000 for electrical services; and a construction contingency budget of \$65,5000. The \$429,388 total is \$43,000 under budget;

- Approved the District Wireless Controller and Wireless Access Point Replacement Project through Sentinel Technologies at a district cost of \$59,633.16. Erate grant funding of \$153,669.84 pays 80% of the total cost of \$213,303;

- Approved the second reading and adoption of 12 recommended Board of Education Policy Updates;

- Agreed to meet via Zoom for the July 27 regular meeting because there are items that will need board approval at that time. Kudlak said usually the board can skip the second meeting in July, but not this year. The governor has allowed remote meetings until July 31;

- Approved the recall of Belleville High School math teacher George Devore who had been laid off. Now he is needed for a couple of math classes and other assignments;

- Approved the retirement of Rona Nowak after 28 years in transportation, as of June 30; and the resignation of Erna Sue Tarrow from non-instruction employment at BHS after 21 years of service as of Aug. 25, for a job opportunity; and

- Heard Owen teacher James Parcha and McBride teacher David Turner give reports on their experiences in the Aspiring Administrators Academy put on by RESA. A third academy participant, Owen teacher Jean Smith, was unable to attend the meeting, calling off at the last minute. The academy trains school employees who are interested in being administrators in the future. They are appointed to attend by the superintendent.



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INTERVIEW

VOTE NELSON
PO
FOR
SUPERVISOR
AUG 4TH

By Billy James
17-9-20

Approved and paid for by Committee to Elect Nelson Po, 45025 Harris, Belleville, MI 48111

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VBT permits

(continued from page 3)

Director Best said it would expire Oct. 31 and would help the township businesses now.

“A little thing to help them,” Best said. “Waiting for a planning commission meeting might put a business out of business.”

“We should do all be can to help them,” agreed Treasurer Sharpy Budd.

Commissioner Atchinson said she would like to see the township not wait until the businesses come to ask for help but to reach out to them. She said the time frame is very short and she would be glad to help. That’s when she was informed Power was already reaching out and she wanted

to do back flips.

“This is a good idea,” said Commissioner Joan Franzoi. “Restaurants are having a lot of trouble. People are leery to go inside.”

Birthdays

July 4 – Sharon Kennedy

July 18 – Sam Sobh

July 19 – Shae Millard

July 20 – Jack Thacker

July 23 – Martin Kalasz, Neil Griffin

July 28 – Eileen Graham

Do you or someone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* and we will publish as soon as possible.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES JULY 7, 2020 ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order electronically via Zoom meeting ID 91994812460 at 6:00 p.m. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller and Trustee White. Others participating, facilitating and monitoring the meeting: Secretary Montgomery, Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Planning and Economic Development Director Powers, Communication Specialists Albrecht and Nichols and maximum audience of thirty-two (32).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Miller moved; Budd seconded to approve the agenda Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA: Martin moved, Frazier seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Board Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2020, Prepaid List of June 18, 2020, Prepaid List of June 25, 2020, Prepaid List of July 2, 2020 and the Voucher List of July 7, 2020] Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Budd moved; Miller seconded to open the public hearing at 6:08 to receive public comment on the establishment of Industrial Development District #25. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried. The district is approximately 293 acres on N. Ecorse and Haggerty Rd. and contains approximately 31 tax parcels. No public comment was received. Miller moved; Wright seconded to close the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: The splash pad at Quirk Park is open. The Clerk’s office has issued 5,891 ballots of which 17% (1,101 ballots) have been returned. The Permanent Absentee Voter Application list is currently at 7,587. The Yankee Air Museum has cancelled the Thunder Over Michigan Air Show

this year.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): Resident commented, on behalf of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce, in support of a relaxed administrative review process and fees regarding temporary land uses for outdoor food and beverage service and retail in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

White moved; Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2020-09 the establishment of Industrial Development District #25. Roll Call Vote: McNamara, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: Budd. Motion Carried. Frazier moved; Miller seconded to approve the first reading of ordinance 07-07-20 (1) to add clarifications in order to distinguish commercial and residential/ non-commercial land uses in the C local business District with respect to maximum building size and clarify restrictions on dwellings in non-residential zoning districts. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Budd moved; Miller seconded to approve a special land use request by Camping World (Derrick Matter). Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Martin moved; Miller seconded to approve a policy resolution to relax certain administrative review processes and fees regarding temporary land uses for outdoor food, beverage service and retail in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, White seconded to approve a lot split/combination on 83-080-01-0067-000 and 83-080-01-0068-000. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA

ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENT NON-AGENDA

ITEMS: The Township budget process will begin next week.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved; Frazier seconded to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Published: July 16, 2020

Library presents live online program on retirement at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 16

The Belleville Area District Library invites the public to join in on a live, online program on retirement at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 16.

“Passport to Retirement” is a seminar with Innovative Investment Services. Visit Belleville.evanced.info/signup for more information and to register.



City of Belleville Public Notice



CITY OF BELLEVILLE 2020 JULY BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Belleville Board of Review will be conducting the 2020 July Board of Review and will convene in the Belleville City Hall at 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

July 21, 2020 between 9:00 am and 9:30 am

This is a correction Board of Review and will cover all clerical errors and mutual mistakes of fact during the meeting. Also per Executive Order 2020-87, ONLY protest of valuation and classification for 2020 will be allowed.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the “Open Meetings Act”.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor’s Office at (734) 697-9323 Ext. 7016.

Sherri Scharf
City Clerk

Publish: July 16, 2020

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

JULY BOARD OF REVIEW CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- 1) To correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
- 2) Principal Residence Exemption and Poverty exemptions.

Also per Executive Order 2020-87, the protest of valuation and classification will be allowed for the year 2020 only.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should contact the Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to July 21, 2020.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Post: July 2, 2020

Publish: July 9, 2020

July 16, 2020

La Salle

(continued from page 1)

Pilgrim was NOT applied until 200 years later in 1820 with Biblical origins). For years Thomas Hunt – a slave trader – had been plying his trade in Africa, Haiti, and along the Eastern coast of the Americas. Squanto was one of the Wampanoag Indians to be captured, sent to England, learned English, escaped and returned to his tribe – where he befriended the Puritans in their plight to survive starvation.

So, what about LaSalle? Yes, what about him? What did he do wrong that his statue would offend ANYONE? The answer is: NOTHING! I bet this woman (not a lady) cannot tell us his first names let alone any offenses!

Rene'-Robert Cavellier, Sieur de La Salle was born in Rouen, France, on Nov. 22, 1643 into a wealthy merchant family. When he was 15, he gave up his inheritance to become a Jesuit priest. However, all of the previous events previously read, attracted him to adventure and he asked to be sent abroad as a missionary to join his brother, Jean, who was in New France (Canada) as a priest of the Seminary of St. Sulpice that laid claim to areas on Montreal Island and granting land to settlers for protection

against the Iroquois. Rene'- Robert had been released from the Jesuit Society citing "moral weaknesses" and received a land grant that he quickly built a settlement on and initiated relations with local natives – the Mohawks – who told him of a great river named the Ohio that flowed to the Mississippi and out to the sea.

La Salle became obsessed with the idea of finding a river in North America (remember Amerigo Vespucci?). About this time, he and the New France governor pursued a policy of extending French military power across the Great Lakes. Fast forward – with permission from French King Louis XIV to explore the region between Florida, Mexico, and New France -- he sold his settlement and prospered in controlling a large share of the fur trade (with the trappers and Indian tribes). He had a relentless ambition to find a water route to China.

In February of 1682, La Salle let an expedition down the Mississippi River and along the way they built Fort Prod'homme at present-day Memphis, Tennessee. In April they reached the Gulf of Mexico and named the region "La-Louisianan" in honor of King Louis XIV, cultivated important military, social and political alliances with Native American tribes in the upper Mississippi River area and established the

Fort St. Louis in Illinois.

Though Rene'-Robert La Salle failed in his last mission (omitted from this dissertation), his expeditions built a network of forts from Canada, across the Great Lakes and along the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. This defensive front line established the French territory in North America and defined its commercial and diplomatic policy for almost a century.

His friendships with numerous Native American tribes assisted and supported French colonial settlers and the military up to the Seven Years' War.

Why single out this statue in a small hamlet like Belleville when La Salle happened to camp here? Change the name of the town of LaSalle in Essex County, Ontario; or LaSalle, Quebec in Montreal, Quebec Canada; or LaSalle County, Illinois or the city of LaSalle and the LaSalle Speedway; how about LaSalle Parish, Louisiana or LaSalle County, Texas? While you are at it, see how far you get with the following offending you: The LaSalle Expressway, Niagara Falls, NY; LaSalle Street Chicago, IL; The LaSalle Causeway connecting Kingston, Ontario to Barriefield, Ontario; LaSalle Ave. in downtown Minneapolis, MN; LaSalle Street, Navasota, TX; LaSalle Avenue in South Bend, IL and Waco, Texas. Then there is La Salle Landing Park on Irondequoit Creek in Penfield, NY; or La Salle Park, Burlington, Ontario. How about removing the old luxury automobile La Salle; LaSalle-Peru Township High School in LaSalle, IL. Or the La Salle Hotel in Chicago?

Good Luck, Charlie! Leave our statue alone!

Now! What would be offensive? Am I missing something? I was enrolled in Park Gregory's chemistry class as a laboratory assistant and ALWAYS knew him to an honest, honorable, and great teacher. He and Edna would NEVER purpose anything opprobrious with a stature of La Salle.

Sincerely,
Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville



Let's take down the LaSalle statue

To the editor:

Let's take down the Rene Robert Cavellier de la Salle statue and confront historical events that have had dire repercussions for Plains indigenous people that continue today. Think Standing Rock.

I protest because it was wrong for La Salle in 1682 to "take possession" of lands from New Orleans to Alberta for King Louis XIV, including the people that were living there -- OUTRAGEOUS. In La Salle's own words, "the seas, harbors, ports, bays, adjacent straits and all the nations, peoples, provinces, cities, towns, villages, mines, minerals, fisheries, streams and rivers within the said Louisiana," becoming later the Louisiana Purchase.

The lands included all or part of 15 states and two Canadian provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, 530,000,000 acres in all with first nations peoples that included the Blackfeet, Cheyenne, Lakota, Assiniboine, Mandan, etc. living there since time immemorial. His actions opened the way for atrocities, wars and ethnic cleansing in future centuries.

Let's stop glorifying La Salle who dismissed the lives of Indigenous peoples, their civil and human rights, their right to self determination -- food sources, medicines, sacred sites and burial grounds.

Taking down the statue is a step toward justice for Indigenous people but the problem of Crown wealth coming here creating an unfair advantage over Natives with a more egalitarian system remains, and now it's multinational corporations, like Enbridge.

But if we can solve this problem of wealth becoming so concentrated in the first place, all peoples' lives would improve, the environment will improve if the focus isn't profit, but taking enough from the lands to live. And, if people have enough to live, the social fabric of our society will mend.

Raping the earth with fracking and deforestation creates scarcity of resources pitting different ethnic groups against each other, and this was by design to drive down wages. And it's apparent that this cannot go on, the signs being climate change, water, air and soil degradation and social unrest, think George Floyd.

As confederate monuments come down, so should La Salle's and what he stood for should be renounced.

P. D. Myles, Ypsilanti Township

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 260 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.

Sunday, July 5:

0017 – property damage accident, N. I-275 Ecorse ramp/Ecorse I-275 ramp
0022 – neighbor trouble, Nautica Dr.
0109 – noise complaint, Stamford Rd.
0203 – 911 welfare check, Outer Dr.
0239 – family trouble, Van Buren Ct.
0250 – property damage accident, Savage Rd. / Country Walk Blvd.
0422 – assist fire dept., Cherry Ln.
0601 – larceny, Hull Rd./Sumpter Rd.
0629 – 911 welfare check, Purple Sage Ct.
0916 – assist fire dept., Harmony Ln.
1027 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.
1029 – suicidal person, Landmark
1139 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1203 – suspicious person/vehicle, Walden Ct.
1215 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1237 – neighbor trouble, Andover Dr.
1315 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Sunset Ln.
1341 – property damage accident, Hamilton St.
1433 – domestic, Birch Dr.
1433 – malicious destruction of property, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1444 – fight, Beckley Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1510 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood/Tyler
1524 – found property/child, Martz Rd.
1630 – weapons violation, Sumpter Rd.
2008 – noise complaint, Renton Rd.
2008 – 911 welfare check, Wildbrook Dr.
2144 – assist other dept., Parkwood Dr.
2304 – property damage accident, Parkwood

Monday, July 6:

0035 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0756 – malicious destruction of property, Ecorse
0917 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
0950 – fraud, Heatherfield Blvd.
1039 – larceny, Van Born Rd.
1057 – 911 welfare check, Elwell Rd.
1212 – abandoned auto, Haggerty/tracks
1322 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1545 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1613 – disorderly, Oak Ln.
1718 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1942 – 911 welfare check, Milton Dr.
2100 – narcotics crime, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2157 – harassment call, Oak Ln.
2301 – fireworks, Parkwood
2322 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd./Beck

Tuesday, July 7:

0431 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0711 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
0928 – malicious destruction of property, E. Adams
1053 – disorderly, Coca-Cola Dr.
1236 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1358 – ordinance violation, Edwards Rd.
1444 – issue gun permit, Tyler Rd.
1531 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1718 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1753 – larceny, Richard Run Dr.
1950 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr. / Madelon St.
2009 – traffic offense, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2026 – neighbor trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2238 – family trouble, S. Belldridge Dr.

Wednesday, July 8:

0754 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse/Haggerty
0918 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
1252 – property damage accident, N. Liberty
1256 – traffic offense, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
1314 – ordinance violation, Lighthouse Dr.
1315 – ordinance violation, Lighthouse Dr.
1633 – parking complaint, Westlake Cir.
1701 – domestic, Lighthouse Dr.
1706 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2002 – family trouble, Country Ln.
2319 – fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2332 – noise complaint, Lake villa Dr.

Thursday, July 9:

0018 – suspicious person/vehicle, McBride Ave.
0224 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Center Dr.
0818 – domestic, Spruce Ln.
0950 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0954 – personal injury accident, Tyler Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1051 – mental subject, Parkside Dr.

1114 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1117 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1238 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1415 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ford
1458 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1622 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
1841 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1922 – abandoned auto, Edwards Rd.
2005 – 911 welfare check, S. Timberview Dr.
2011 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
2017 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2120 – operating while intoxicated, Van Buren Rd. / Tyler Rd.
2249 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2255 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.

Friday, July 10:

0026 – felony assault, Parkside Dr.
0129 – suspicious person/vehicle, Assembly St.
0417 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
0429 – shooting, Lake Pointe Pass
0731 – disorderly, Belldridge
0802 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
0831 – threat, S. Belldridge Dr.
0904 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0935 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Rawsonville Rd.
1029 – lost property/child, Vernon St.
1040 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.
1046 – hospice death, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1453 – family trouble, Van Born Rd.
1503 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1540 – parking complaint, N. Prairiegrass Ct.
1605 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1712 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1715 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1723 – breaking & entering, Hull Rd.
1905 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
1907 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1940 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
2017 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd./Bemis Rd.
2252 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Saturday, July 11:

0032 – suspicious person/vehicle, McKinley St.
0121 – disorderly, McKinley St.
0124 – felony assault, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0140 – domestic, Clayton Rd.
0242 – assault & battery, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0424 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
0509 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
0726 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter Rd.
0945 – suspicious person/vehicle, Country Ln.
1020 – hold-up alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1103 – found property/child, DNR boat launch, Rawsonville Rd.
1106 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./EB I-94
1446 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty/Tyler
1514 – suicidal person, Van Buren Ct.
1638 – disorderly, Independence Ln.
1814 – lake complaint, North Shore Dr./Stanley Rd
2137 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
2143 – felony assault, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.

Also on this week's log are 38 traffic stops, 19 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 5:

0034 – suspicious person/vehicle, South St./W. Wabash Ave.
1055 – suspicious person/vehicle, Harbour Pointe Dr./Bell Cove Ct.
1947 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.

Monday, July 6:

0123 – traffic stop, Church St.
1207 – assist fire dept., S. Liberty St.
1359 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1610 – neighbor trouble, Main St.
1725 – neighbor trouble, Main St.
2048 – noise complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
2137 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, July 7:

1658 – property damage accident, Third/Main
1851 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.

1938 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River Dr. / Madelon St.
2152 – assist fire dept., Main St.
Wednesday, July 8:
0802 – intrusion alarm, Owen
1145 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1321 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave./Edison
1835 – civil matter, Main St.
2327 – neighbor trouble, Loza Ln.

Thursday, July 9:

1008 – sexual assault, Carmell St.
1354 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1421 – abandoned auto, Belle Villa Blvd.
1737 – assist fire dept., Robbe St.
1816 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1840 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
2010 – domestic, Wexford Ave.
2122 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Potter

Friday, July 10:

0045 – suspicious person/vehicle, High St.
0055 – traffic stop, South St./E. Columbia Ave.
0401 – traffic stop, Main St./Denton Rd.
0824 – intrusion alarm, Owen
0858 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
0919 – abandoned auto, E. Columbia Ave.
1052 – misc. complaint, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1200 – lost property/child, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1228 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.
1316 – animal complaint, Loza Ln.
1510 – unattended death, Carmell St.
1533 – neighbor trouble, Main St.
1844 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

Saturday, July 11:

0925 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1004 – traffic stop, Church St./W. Columbia
1017 – traffic stop, Light Tower Dr. / Harbour Pointe Dr.
1138 – disorderly, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1244 – traffic stop, Church St./W. Columbia Ave.
1332 – intrusion alarm, Madelon St.
1344 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr.
1355 – breaking & entering, N. Liberty St.
1712 – property damage accident, E. Huron River
2157 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.
2207 – assist citizen, E. Columbia Ave.

There were eight traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 5:

0246 – civil matter, First St.
0401 – fire dept. assist, Stonecrest Dr.
1014 – animal complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1047 – fire dept. assist, W. Arizona St.
1531 – animal complaint, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1605 – found property, 27000 bl. Martinsville
1735 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1743 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1841 – suspicious person, Judd Rd./Rawsonville
Monday, July 6:
0452 – suspicious person, 45000 bl. Bontekoe
1020 – suspicious person, Sumpter Rd./Arkona
1412 – civil matter, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1418 – animal complaint, 29000 bl. Martinsville
1445 – suspicious vehicle, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.
1604 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1635 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1703 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1707 – suspicious circumstances, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

1856 – civil matter, Redwood St.
2016 – family trouble, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
2220 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.

Tuesday, July 7:

0720 – suspicious person, Nevada St.
0851 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1054 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1119 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1305 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1359 – personal injury accident, Judd Rd./Bohn
1559 – suspicious circumstances, Willow/Sumpter
1751 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1841 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1946 – traffic complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2021 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.
2059 – animal complaint, 29000 bl. Martinsville
2229 – welfare check, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz
2303 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Wednesday, July 8:

0243 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

0500 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.
0813 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Sherwood
1124 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
1152 – traffic complaint, Sherwood Rd./Wear
1339 – assist other agency, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1530 – fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1713 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2037 – suspicious person, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.

Thursday, July 9:

0025 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.
0633 – traffic complaint, Sherwood Rd./Wear Rd.
1026 – 911 hang up, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1114 – assist other agency, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1451 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1634 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1713 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1952 – animal complaint, Wayside Dr.
2005 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
2040 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2137 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd. / Sumpter Rd.

Friday, July 10:

0927 – suspicious vehicle, Judd Rd.
1317 – civil matter, Edgewood Dr.
1558 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1613 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1743 – ORV complaint, Sherwood Rd./Arkona Rd.
2051 – civil matter, Edgewood Dr.
2052 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2147 – welfare check, Carriage Ln.
2245 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2307 – follow-up investigation, out of township
2318 – liquor violation, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2329 – violation of liquor control laws, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

2332 – violation of liquor control laws, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

2334 – sell, give, furnish tobacco products to persons under 18 years of age, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2335 – violation of liquor control laws, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, July 11:

0005 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
0946 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1106 – citizen assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1218 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Clay Rd.
1425 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1431 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1600 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1632 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1831 – 911 hang up, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1905 – ORV complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1944 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2114 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2137 – 911 hang up, Willow Rd./Karr Rd.

Also on this week's log are 63 patrol checks, 22 traffic stops, and six miscellaneous details.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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More Letters

(continued from page 9)

Walt also knows when to compromise and is one of the most honest individuals I have ever met.

Six years ago, I was active in Judge David Parrott's re-election campaign. I knew Judge Parrott through his extensive volunteer work and always admired his dedication to helping others. But before I committed to his re-election, I wanted to know what type of judge he was. So, I started visiting his courtroom to observe him "in action."

I have been to district courts in the past as a plaintiff in landlord / tenant cases and I must say "not all judges are created equal." I have witnessed judges reading papers while a defendant was pleading his/her case. Some judges act arrogantly and talk down to participants. I saw a judge act indifferent and appear to lose control after

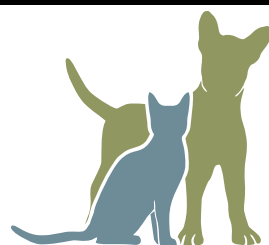
allowing the defendant and plaintiff to talk over each other. I never witnessed this in Judge Parrott's courtroom.

I did, however, witness Judge Parrott listen intently to a single mother who was explaining why she committed a particular crime. I have heard Judge Parrott patiently explain options to defendants. Judge Parrott always displays sympathy while still being firm with his decision, a skill which is developed over time. Bottom line: Judge David Parrott is a very fair judge who runs his courtroom with integrity and good common sense.

I strongly endorse Walt Rochowiak for Van Buren Trustee and the re-election of Judge David Parrott for the 34th District Court. They are both experienced humanitarians who have served their communities in many ways for many years.

Lawrence (Larry) Gallo
 Sun City, AZ

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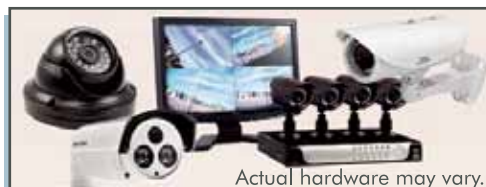
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WE NEED LISTINGS

Real Trends 2020

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State of Michigan

Transaction Sides



DO NOT BE OVERCHARGED - NO DOCUMENT STORAGE FEES - NO COMPLIANCE FEES - NO JUNK FEES

BOOMING WITH ROOM

PENDING

BELLEVILLE LAKE



42101 S I-94 SERVICE DR VAN BUREN
YOUR OWN PRIVATE WORLD A Total of 5,263 Square Feet! 4 Bedroom 3 Full and 2 Half Baths, INTERIOR POOL, High End Premium Built Brick 3 Level Home. 100+ Feet Lake Frontage, Double Dock-SAND BEACH. \$898,900

NEW LISTING



15700 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN
A NICE PRICE FOR A PRICELESS BEAUTY. Custom Full Brick Ranch featuring 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors, Central Air, Whole House Generator, 2 1/2 Car Garage & Large Pole Barn on 3.06 Acres. \$245,000

NEW LISTING



280 EDISON, BELLEVILLE
EXPERIENCE CONTENTMENT OF CONVENIENCE! Featuring a Six Car Attached Garage. Large Kitchen, Washer & Dryer. Two Huge Bedrooms, Two Full Baths, Living Room With Fireplace. It's a Perfect Choice. \$175,000

5 ACRES-3,000+ S F-BASEMENT



47037 HULL, VAN BUREN
CUSTOM BUILT 3,000+ Square Foot 4 Bedroom 3 1/2 Bath Home w First Floor Master, Family Room, Fireplace, Sunroom. Finished Basement, Second Garage. This Property provides Unlimited Fun plus Deck on Five Landscaped Acres. \$385,000

2,332 SQUARE FEET



12828 MARTINSVILLE, VAN BUREN
THREE BEDROOM - TWO BATH RANCH Remodeled Kitchen, Hardwood Floors, Family Room, Covered Deck, Michigan Riverstone Fireplace, 90+ Three Zone Furnace and Central Air, Hot Tub and Newer Roof. \$239,900

LAKE POINT CONDO



13282 LAKE POINT, VAN BUREN
GREAT 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath Condo with Belleville Lake Access. Large Upper Bedrooms with Full Bath. Finished Basement with Bar Area plus Large Storage area. First Floor Deck, Upper Bedroom Deck. \$120,000

ROMULUS BARGAIN



6735 GLORIA, ROMULUS
3 BEDROOM BRICK RANCH with 1 Bath, Large Kitchen, Basement Needs to be Refinished, 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. Purchaser to assume Certificate of Occupancy requirements and Cash Only but priced To Sell at \$89,500

LARGE BRICK RANCH



41577 MCBRIDE, VAN BUREN
KING SIZED BRICK and Vinyl Ranch 1,484 Sq Ft Ranch featuring 3 Large Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths 15X12 LivingRoom, 15X20 FamilyRoom, Wallside Windows, Central Air, Deck, 2 1/2 Car Block Garage. \$150,000 Imm Occupancy

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500E HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
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TORREY 2.48 AC PERC & SURV \$48,000
VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$95,000
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19 AC BREST ROAD TAYLOR \$550,000

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CAPERNALL 8 AC EXETER TWP \$70,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000
24053 BOHN 3.3 ACRES SUMPTER\$67,000

SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEAR \$225,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$70,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN \$65,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000
16265 DIX SOUTHGATE 1.6 AC \$155,000

7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$50,000 TO \$60,000 EACH. BUILD YOUR DREAM
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MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$25,000
10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP\$155,000

JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$80,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$40,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$60,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000
VACANT BALL ROMULUS .34 AC \$19,000



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#3

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